

--- 25 Cigarettes - “Series of 1897” - 22 x 28 mm. - scanned at 200% scale ---

--- recess printed in BLACK ink ---

The twenty-five cigarette stamp in the “Series of 1897” was not approved until March 24th 1910. This was after the 1908 Budget, and thus **RC-143** *does not come* in the many colours usually associated with the “Series of 1897”.

Since there was no *blue* “Customs” twenty-five cigarette stamp in the “Series of 1897”, many of the copies of **RC-143** (as illustrated below) show a dark violet **CUSTOMS / TOBACCO / MONTREAL** roller cancellation.



★ **RC-143** - 25 cigarettes, perf 12



★ **RC-143** - 25 cigarettes, perf 12,
rolled **CUSTOMS / TOBACCO / MONTREAL**

The cancellation collection contains no examples of **RC-143** - the “Series of 1897” perforated twenty-five cigarette stamp - as dated by “Imperial Tobacco”, Montreal.

--- “Series of 1897” - the 25 Cigarette large die proof [F - 206] ---

The large die proof [F-206] for the twenty-five cigarettes “Series of 1897” shows approval by *W. J. Gerald* on March 24th, 1910.



★RC-143 DP - 25 cigarettes, the large die proof [F-206] approved by *W. J. Gerald* on March 10th, 1910

--- an oddity ---

This copy of ★**RC-143**, with the black bar cancelling **CIGARETTES**, carries an unreadable violet roller cancellation, which is possibly by Montreal Customs. Could it have been used for imported cigars? The *black bar is offset* on the reverse, and thus more than one sheet of this obliteration was prepared.



The inverted cancellation across the top reads **TOBACCO**. The center seems to have an **8** in the cancel, but I cannot make out the rest of the coding - possibly **8-6** from “Rock City Tobacco”, Quebec City.

File path is [c:\CR - STAMPS\RC_STAMPS\1897\black\25 cigarettes],
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